

LOUISVILLE METRO COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Special Public Safety Committee

Tuesday, February 19, 2008

4:02 P.M.

Third Floor, City Hall

Present:

Chairman: CM Heiner

**Members: CM Peden, CW Woolridge and
CM Blackwell, CW Flood**

Absent:

Madonna Flood (excused)

Also Present:

CM Fleming, CM Hawkins and CM Downard

Chairman Heiner announced the members and non-members of the committee that were present. A quorum was established.

Chairman Heiner stated two items would not be heard until the next meeting. Dr. Richmond was not able to attend the meeting to speak regarding EMS Response time due to being out of town. This item for Legislation will be heard at the next meeting.

Special Items for Discussion: 1. Police Sale of Helicopter and Status of Staffing Levels and Recruiting Classes. 2. EMS Response Time

Discussion: Col. Tim Emington, Louisville Metro Police Department, spoke to the Police Sale of the Helicopter and Recruiting Classes. The following was discussed.

- The Air Unit started in 1972 at Bowman Field
- Present location - 7200 Block of Outer Loop
- 8 Pilots (Officers) assigned to the Unit
 - ✓ Lieutenant
 - ✓ Secretary
 - ✓ FHA Mechanic
- Unit flies approximately 700 Hours a year
- Currently have 2 Aircraft – in the process of selling one of the Aircraft
 - ✓ Asking price \$600,000
 - ✓ Since 2001 had 15 months – when 2 Aircraft have been available at the same time
- The Aircrafts are MD's 520 in Series
- Aircraft being sold was purchased in 2005 – 1993 Model
- Keeping 2001 Helicopter that was purchased new for approximately a \$1 Million Dollars
- Flight crews go through normal pre-flights at night
 - ✓ Do not have set patrolling schedule – at night looking for roof top break ins -do not want to alert people when they will be coming back to the areas
 - ✓ Patrolling depends on the calls for service
 - ✓ When running ahead on budget may fly helicopter more
- Service Provided
 - ✓ Last year had 811 self initiated runs
 - ✓ Responded to 738 dispatch runs – total amount of 1,549
 - ✓ Unit realized - 161 Arrested out of runs
 - ✓ 58 Hours Homeland Security Checks
 - ✓ Responded to 69 other Agencies
 - ✓ Forty Nine (49) Community Events
- What will the disposition be of the staff if Helicopter is sold

- ✓ The officers will be placed in trouble areas
- Helicopter being sold - budget based decision
- Spoke with Aviation and brokers to see how much the Helicopter should be sold for
 - ✓ Will not sell Helicopter for less than \$600,000
- Maintenance to keep Helicopter with Insurance would be approximately \$45,000 a year
- Expense too high to lease a Helicopter
- How long will the One (1) - Helicopter be down and unavailable for routine maintenance – Col. Emington will find out information
- National Guard and State Police will share if there is a need for another Helicopter
- How do we compare with other cities our size
 - ✓ Lexington – 2 Helicopters
 - ✓ Indianapolis – 4 Helicopters
 - ✓ Nashville – 6 Helicopters
 - ✓ St. Louis – 5 Helicopters
 - ✓ Columbus – 4 or 5 Helicopters
- Comments of the Committee Members
 - ✓ If we are going to have air service it should be viable and the helicopter is a very important piece of equipment to let go
 - ✓ Look for other types of assets to liquidate
 - ✓ The Council should be in discussion if they need to find \$600,00 in cuts – do not need to start with our small air service that we have
 - ✓ Message sent to Chief White to see if he would reconsider and let the committee know the results of the Chief comments
- Recruiting Classes/Lateral Classes
 - ✓ 1,194 sworn officers
 - ✓ Authorized strength - 1,257
 - ✓ Started the year out with 1,264 Officers – moved 7 Officers from LMPD to IPL
 - ✓ Sworn vacancies - 54
 - ✓ 39 Officers currently in Recruit class
 - ✓ 9 Officers on Military leave
 - ✓ Lateral class that will begin next month – approximately 10 or 15
 - ✓ Recruit class will start up in June – full class 48
 - ✓ 60 sworn vacancies by the end of the year
 - ✓ Have a very aggressive recruiting program
 - ✓ 39 Officers will graduate in May
 - ✓ Lateral class will graduate next month
 - ✓ Finishing out the year with a vacancy rate of 26 – lowest rate since merger

Pending Legislation

O-41-02-06 AN ORDINANCE CREATING AN ANIMAL WELFARE/CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD.

(Reintroduced 08/29/06; 02/08/07; 08/23/07)

This item was **Held** in Committee.

CW Woolridge made a motion to adjourn without objection.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

***NOTE: Items sent to the Consent Calendar or Old Business will be heard before the full Council at the Metro Council Meeting, February 28, 2008.**

MEM

